



BILL RICHARDSON
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
Office of the Secretary
Harold Runnels Building
1190 St. Francis Drive, P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110
Telephone (505) 827-2855
Fax (505) 827-2836



RON CURRY
SECRETARY

For Immediate Release
April 14, 2005

Contact: Jon Goldstein, NMED Communications Director
Phone: (505) 827-0314

Environment Department to Honor Earth Day with Litter Clean Up Efforts

(Santa Fe, NM) — On the morning of Friday, April 22nd, volunteers from the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) will be honoring the 35th annual Earth Day with litter clean up efforts on Santa Fe roadways. These efforts will be concentrated on portions of I-25, as well as Highways 599 and 14.

“Every year, Earth Day reminds us of the efforts we can make every day to help protect our environment,” said NMED Secretary Ron Curry. “I am proud that I was a part of the first Earth Day at UNM in 1970 and I’m happy that I can continue that tradition this year. A lot has changed in the last 35 years, but the need to do our part to protect the environment isn’t one of them.”

On April 22, NMED volunteers will pick up trash from 9am to noon. Each volunteer will be given guidelines including items not to remove (dead animals and hazardous materials such as needles), traffic protocol, and hydration. Items too large to place in the trash bags (e.g., tires, parts from cars/trucks, construction and demolition materials, etc.) will be piled alongside bags containing picked up litter for later retrieval.

This effort is supported by Keep America Beautiful, New Mexico Clean and Beautiful and Glad Bags who will provide trash bags at no charge.

For more information, contact Jon Goldstein, Communications Director, NMED at (505) 827-0314.

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